CIA Funded Anti-Allende Operations

By JOHN P. WALLACH News American Bureau

WASHINGTON—The Ford administration is saddled with its first major credibility gap in foreign policy.

It stems from the revelations this week that the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) until late last year funded covert operations against the Allende government in Chile while top officials, including Secretary of State Kissinger, were testifying in Congress the United States was doing nothing of the sort.

The controversy now certain to ensue over whether these officials in effect lied to the public also may spark new Senate hearings similar to the ones led by Sen, Frank Church, D-Idaho, last year on the public and clandestine U.S. role in foreign countries.

State Department spokesman Robert Anderson sought Monday to minimize the backlash from the new disclosures that the CIA between 1970 and 1973 authorized more than \$8 million in an effort to topple the socialist government of Chilean President Salvador Allende.

His regime fell in a violent coup last Sept. 11, in which Allende himself either was murdred or committed suicide.

In an unusual move, Anderson, after a lengthy meeting with Kissinger, volunteered



details about the 40 Committee, a secret, high-level intelligence panel headed by Kissinger and charged with overseeing U.S. intelligence operations.

The committee was set up by President Kennedy to avert the kind of Bay of Pigs fiasco that occurred in 1961.

There had been previous allegations that the CIA channeled \$20 million to the campaign of ex-President Eduardo Frei in an effort to defeat Allende in Chile's 1970 national election.

According to just-divulged testimony of CIA Director William Colby, at a top secret congressional hearing last April, it was the 40 Committee

that approved use of the funds in the anti-Allende campaign.

By providing basically superfluous details of this panel's previously hidden existence, Anderson apparently was attempting to deflect interest from the central issue.

That is whether or not Kissinger, then assistant Secretary of State for Latin America Jack Kubisch and then Deputy U.S. Chief of Mission in Chile Harry Shlaudeman in effect lied to Senate and House panels about the U.S. role in bringing down the Allende regime.

On Sept. 20, 1973, while in fact the CIA was actively channeling funds to anti-Allende forces in Chile, Kubisch branded as "absolutely false" charges the United States was involved "either explicitly or implicitly" in the coup.

On June 12, 1974 — less than two months after Colby had testified — Shlaudeman flatly declared that "Despite pressures to the contrary the U.S. government adhered to a policy of nonintervention in Chile's affairs during the Allende period. That policy remains in force today."

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